



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

## ARMED SERVICES COMMISSARY REGULATIONS **(ASCR)**

APRIL 1987

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
(FORCE MANAGEMENT AND PERSONNEL)

<b>REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE</b>	<b>1. REPORT NO.</b> DoD 1330.17-R	<b>Z</b>	<b>J. Recipient's Accession No.</b>
<b>4. Title and Subtitle</b> Armed Services Commissary Regulations (ASCR)			<b>5. Report Date</b> April 1987
			<b>6.</b>
<b>7. Author(s)</b> J. Jordan			<b>8. Performing Organization Rept. No.</b>
<b>9. • edewniw Organization Name • nd Address</b> Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel ) Washington, D.C. 20301			<b>10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.</b>
			<b>11. Contract (C) or Grant (G) No.</b> (C) (G)
<b>12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address</b>			<b>13. Type of Report &amp; Period Covered</b> Regulation
			<b>14.</b>
<b>15. Supplementary Notes</b>			
<b>16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words)</b> The purpose of this Regulation is to establish uniform policies relating to the operation of the Defense commissary system and to define those who are authorized to use this benefit. Congress has authorized the Department of Defense to operate military commissaries as an integral element of the military pay and benefits package. The intent of the commissary system is to provide an income benefit through savings or discount purchases on food and household items necessary to subsist and maintain the household of the military member and family for the inclusive period of compensated duty/service. The primary consideration in authorizing commissary privileges is the compensation status of the sponsor military member. Based upon this stated intent, the military commissary system is considered an essential and appropriated funded activity.			
<b>17. Document Analysis • Descriptors</b>			
<b>b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms</b>			
<b>c. COSATI Field/Group</b>			
<b>18. Availability Statement</b> Release unlimited, for sale by the National Technical Information Service		<b>19. Security Class (This Report)</b> Unclassified	<b>21. No. of Pages</b>
		<b>20. Security Class (This Page)</b> Unclassified	<b>22. • eo</b>



## ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

FORCE MANAGEMENT  
AND PERSONNEL

April 1987

## FOREWORD

This Regulation is issued under the authority of DoD Directive 1330.17, "Military Commissaries." Its purpose is to establish uniform policies relating to the operation of the Defense commissary system and to define those who are authorized to use this benefit. Simply, the Congress has authorized the Department of Defense to operate military commissaries as an integral element of the military pay and benefits package. The intent of the commissary system is to provide an income benefit through savings or discount purchases on food and household items necessary to subsist and maintain the household of the military member and family for the inclusive period of compensated duty/service. Therefore, the primary consideration in authorizing commissary privileges is the compensation status of the sponsor military member. Based upon this stated intent, the military commissary system is considered an essential and appropriated funded activity.

This regulation implements existing statutes and Defense policy concerning the funding strategy for commissaries. As prescribed by statute, most commissary overhead costs will be funded with appropriated funds. Therefore, commissary goods will be sold at cost plus a standard surcharge. The surcharge will be used to fund prescribed overhead cost in order to offset the need for additional appropriated funds. Because the commissary is an element of the military pay and benefits system, it is necessary that the military commissaries operated by each of the Military Services offer a relatively uniform and stable rate of savings and comparable levels of service. Based upon current considerations, it is desired that funding requests be targeted to maintain a 25% average savings on purchase in the military commissary system as compared to private sector supermarkets.

This Regulation applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and the Department of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, hereafter referred to collectively as "Military Departments."

This Regulation is effective immediately and is mandatory for use by all Military Departments. The Military Departments may issue supplementary instructions when necessary to provide more detailed operating instructions. One copy of supplementary instructions shall be forwarded to Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel) (Military Manpower and Personnel Policy) OASD(FM&P)(MM&PP).

Forward recommended changes to the Regulation through channels to:

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Force Management and Personnel)  
Washington, D.C. 20301-4000

Military Departments may obtain copies of this Regulation through their own publication channels. Other Federal agencies and the public may obtain copies from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chapman B. Cox". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Chapman B. Cox  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Force Management and Personnel)

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REFERENCES

- (a) Public Law 97-252, "Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1983 (Uniformed Services Former Spouse's Protection Act)," September 8, 1982
- (b) The DoD Military Pay and Allowances Entitlements Manual
- (c) Title 33, United States Code, Sections 754a, 868a
- (d) Title 37, United States Code, Section 204
- (e) Public Law 99-145, "Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986, Section 1460, November 8, 1985
- (f) Title 10, United States Code, Chapters 67, 147, 367, 571, 867, and Sections 2685, 4621, 7603, and 9621
- (g) DoD Directive 4000.19, Interservice, Interdepartment, and Interagency Support
- (h) Title 38, United States Code, Chapters I and II
- (i) DoD Instruction 1000.13, Identification Cards for Members of the Uniformed Services, Their Dependents, and Other Eligible Individuals, June 6, 1984
- (j) Public Law 99-661, "National Defense Authorization Act of 1987," Section 313, November 14, 1986.